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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/RUS AND OES/ENRC (MARK JOHNSEN)

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [SENV](#) [EAID](#) [EAGR](#) [ETRD](#) [EINV](#) [TBIO](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: INFO ON LACEY ACT AMENDMENTS DELIVERED

REF: STATE 126654

¶1. (SBU) We shared reftel information on the recent amendments to the Lacey Act and the phased-in implementation of new U.S. import requirements for plant and wood products, with Russian officials in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Economic Development, and Natural Resources and Ecology, and in the Forestry Service and Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service (VPSS). Natalya Lobachevo, a senior specialist from the VPSS Phytosanitary Surveillance and Grain Inspection Division, told us that VPSS was not surprised by the new import rules for plant and wood products, and she expected that other countries might adopt similar measures. None of the other ministries or agencies offered any substantive comments on the Lacey Act amemdnments and the new import rules.

RUBIN